

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The abstract has been amended in accordance with U.S. practice.

The specification has been amended to include section headings. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the amendments to the specification.

Claims 1-3 have been canceled in favor of new claims 4-6. Support for the subject matter of claims 4-6 is provided at least in the original claims, Figs. 1-3, and the specification on page 5, line 36, through page 6, line 21. Claims 4-6 have been drafted to avoid the issues underlying the indefiniteness rejections applied to claims 1-3.

Claims 1-3 were rejected, under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by Peterson (US 5,891,153). To the extent the rejections may be deemed applicable to new claims 4-6, the Applicant respectfully traverses.

Peterson fails to disclose the feature recited in claim 4 of a tongue, formed in one of a plurality of wires at their intersection, that provides a passage through which the other wires slide. Application Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate an exemplary, but non-limiting, embodiment of such subject matter, i.e., wire 4

having a tongue 10 that provides a passage 9 for another wire to slide at the intersection of the two wires.

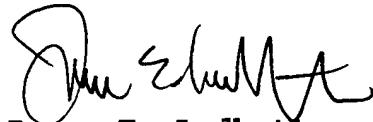
Peterson does not disclose the above-noted subject matter of claim 4.

Accordingly, the Applicant submits that Peterson does not anticipate the subject matter defined by new claim 4. Therefore, allowance of claim 4 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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